



## **Child Safeguarding Statement**

### **Name of service being provided:**

Theatre and workshops by Bombinate Theatre

### **Nature of service provided:**

Bombinate Theatre is a company creating plays for families and young audiences. The company was established in November 2016 and is based in Dublin.

We create plays which tour to venues across the country and internationally. Families and/or school groups visit these venues. The work is also presented in non-theatre settings such as schools, libraries, community centres, education centres and rehearsal rooms.

Additionally, we run workshops in these spaces, some of which blend drama, visual arts and/or creative writing. We sometimes facilitate post-show discussions or feedback sessions after performances.

We are committed to the wellbeing of all children and young people involved in our work. We are committed to providing a safe environment and positive experience for all children and young people.

### **Principles to safeguard children from harm:**

Below are Bombinate Theatre's principles and procedures which should be observed to ensure, as far as possible, that a child is safe from harm while availing of our services.

- All Bombinate Theatre staff and regular artists/facilitators are Garda vetted.
- All Bombinate Theatre staff have undertaken Tusla online Child Protection Training – Children First E-Learning.
- All child protection or welfare concerns will be reported to Tusla/Gardaí in a timely manner.
- Children are always accompanied by a parent/guardian, teacher or member of Bombinate staff

- A child in need of personal support because of illness, physical needs or any form of distress, shall be referred in the first place to his/her parent/guardian or teacher. In the absence of a guardian, the staff member who is working with or supervising that activity will provide such support. A parent/guardian or teacher should inform a member of staff if there are any specific needs required during a child's participation at a service provided by Bombinate Theatre.

**Risk Assessment:**

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

**Risk Identified Procedure in place to manage this risk**

1	Risk of harm not being recognised by Bombinate Theatre staff or artists	Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
2	Non-compliance with Bombinate's Child Protection Policy	All staff and artists are provided with the Child Protection Policy. Any breach of the Child Protection Policy will be reported to one the co-directors. The Child Protection Policy is reviewed every year.
3	Delay in making referrals to Tusla	All staff are trained and supported to ensure they can act promptly and not delay in contacting Tusla when they deem a referral may be required.
4	Receipt of complaint of alleged child abuse where a parent, guardian or teacher is the alleged perpetrator.	All staff and artists know the procedures to make a referral to the Designated Liaison Person or directly to Tusla. Internal disciplinary processes are in place where the issue concerns an employee.

5	Child makes a disclosure to a member of staff	All staff and artists know the procedures to make a referral to the Designated Liaison Person or directly to Tusla.
6	A suspicion of child abuse is determined by a member of staff	All staff know the procedures to make a referral to the Designated Liaison Person or directly to Tusla.

**Procedures**

Bombinate Theatre’s Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the *Children First Act 2015*, and the *Children First: National Guidance*, and Tusla’s *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our services
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children
- Procedure for provision of, and access to, child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla or the Gardaí as appropriate
- All policies are available on request. The Child Protection Policy is available on our website.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

**Implementation**

Bombinate Theatre recognises that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our services. This Statement will be reviewed in August 2024 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signatories of this statement: Ursula McGinn, Director of Bombinate Theatre

Read our full Child Protection Policy at [www.bombinatetheatre.com](http://www.bombinatetheatre.com)

For queries in relation to this Child Safeguarding Statement or the Child Protection Policy please contact [bombinatetheatre@gmail.com](mailto:bombinatetheatre@gmail.com)